

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-14, 18-34, 36, and 41-42 are pending in the present application. New claims 41-43 have been added by this reply. Claims 1, 18, 36, 41, and 43 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 18, and 41.

Amendments to the Specification

The paragraph on page 37 being with “Fig. 31 is a flowchart...” has been amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1, 18, and 36 have been amended to clarify various aspects to the invention. Support for the aforementioned amendments may be found, for example, on pages 34-38 and Figures 25, 28, and 32 of the instant application. In addition, dependent claim 2 has been amended to address an antecedent basis error. No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned amendments.

Objection to Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to satisfy the requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). Specifically, the Examiner has asserted that the Figures of the Instant Application do not show all of the claim limitations. To the extent that this objection applies to the amended claims, the objection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants assert that various claim limitations are shown in the Figures (*see, e.g.*, Instant Application, Figures 25, 28, and 32) and that any limitation not shown in the Figures is sufficiently described in the specification (*see e.g.*, Instant Application, pages 34-38) and, accordingly, is not required to be shown in the Figures.*

In view of the above, withdrawal of all the drawings objections is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph 1**

Claims 1-14, 18-34, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed. Independent claims 1, 18, and 36 have been amended to remove the following limitation: "...the printer can simultaneously handle." Further, the independent claims have been amended to be consistent with the teachings on at least pages 34-38 and Figures 25, 28, and 32 of the Instant Application.

* The Examiner is reminded that the Applicants are only required to furnish drawings necessary for the understanding of the subject matter to be patented or in the situation where the Applicants have indicated there is a drawing but one has not been furnished. (*see* M.P.E.P. § 608.02)

In view of the above amendments, the Applicants assert that all subject matter in the claims is described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Thus, independent claims 1, 18, and 36 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Pending dependent claims satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph from at least the same reasons as the aforementioned independent claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph 2

Claims 1-14, 18-34, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the applicant regards as the invention. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 18, and 36 have been amended to clarify that:

- (i) in response to a request from the host, information corresponding to a number of the printer's usable object identifiers is sent to the host (*i.e.*, the host receives, among other information, object identifiers[†] issued by the printer, *see e.g.*, Instant Specification, Figure 32); and
- (ii) the printer subsequently receives object identifiers from the host, where the object identifiers correspond the number of the printer's usable object identifiers (*i.e.*, the

[†] Referred to in the Instant Application as object numbers, *see e.g.*, Instant Application, page 37.

printer receives object identifiers from the host, where the object identifiers are associated with print objects the host wishes to print).

In view of the above amendments, the Applicant asserts that the ambiguity noted by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed October 18, 2006, has now been resolved and that the pending claims now distinctly point and claim the subject matter that the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the claims, as amended, make it clear that the information corresponding to a number of object identifiers is sent to the host (*i.e.*, the host is sent a plurality of object identifiers, where the object identifiers are not initially associated with print objects) and that the host sends to the printer object identifiers associated with the print objects. Upon receipt of the object identifiers from the host, the printer uses the received object identifiers to obtain print object data associated with the corresponding print objects.

In view of the above, independent claims 1, 18, and 36 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Pending dependent claims satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph from at least the same reasons as the aforementioned independent claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Claims 41-43 have been added by this reply. New claims 41 and 43 includes subject matter from previously cancelled claim 37 and from pages 34-38 and Figures 25, 28, and 32 of the Instant Application. New claims 42 include subject matter from previously cancel claim 38 and from pages 34-38 and Figures 25, 28, and 32 of the instant application. Claims 41 and 43 include similar subject matter to amended independent claim 1 and, thus, is patentable for at least the same reasons

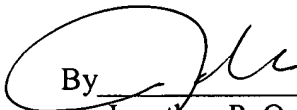
as amended independent claim 1. Dependent claim 42 is patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 41. Accordingly, favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783/016001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment (Clean Copy of Amended Paragraph)